

RESOLUTION

OF

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF ILLINOIS,

CONCERNING

The Oregon territory.

MARCH 2, 1846.

Read, and ordered to be printed.

Preamble and resolution concerning Oregon territory.

Whereas the territory of Oregon, extending from the 42d to and beyond the 54th degree of north latitude, upon the coast of the Pacific ocean, is a part of the United States territory, the title to which is not obscured by a single doubt; and whereas our hardy pioneers and fellow-citizens are there with their flocks and herds, their wives and children, their rifles and bibles, and all the incipency of the social state, forming a portion of that great community, extending from the wrested bounds of Madawaska on the east, to the mouth of the Columbia on the west; and whereas the nation who, by her diplomatic skill and system of national aggrandizement, made the encroachment upon our northeastern territory, has a band of trappers, hunters, and dependents, with a few stockades and some trading establishments, by which they influence and overawe the aborigines and hold possession of a large portion of the Oregon territory: and

Whereas, by our treaty stipulations with Great Britain, we are bound to give twelve months' notice of our intention to occupy said territory, which must be considered by the members of the holy alliance not only as a friendly invitation for a *false* claimant to withdraw, but for *them* also not to interfere in our just and legal territorial acquisitions, but to remain at home, on the other side of the Atlantic, securing their own possessions and strengthening their feudal tenures with lead and gunpowder, without conferring a single boon upon the aspirants for freedom: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, That our Senators be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use their best endeavors to procure the passage of a resolution in Congress, to give notice to Great Britain of the intention of the United States to be the sole occupants of the said territory of Oregon, and to abrogate the first and second articles of the treaty of the 6th day of August, A. D. 1827.

Passed February 27, 1845.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF ILLINOIS

MARCH 2, 1837.

Passed and ordered on its passage.

Preamble and resolution concerning Oregon territory.

Whereas the territory of Oregon, extending from the 42d to and beyond the 49th degree of north latitude upon the coast of the Pacific ocean, and the 10th degree of north latitude upon the coast of the United States territory, the whole of which is not occupied by a part of the United States territory, the whole of which is not occupied by a part of the United States territory, and whereas our hands possess and follow citizens are liable with their backs and heads their wives and children, their wives and children, and all the inhabitants of the said state, forming a portion of that great community, extending from the western bounds of Massachusetts on the east to the mouth of the Columbia on the west; and whereas the nation who by her diplomatic skill and exertion of national grandeur, made the acquisition of our northern territory has a band of happy and dependent, with a few stock and some trading establishments, by which they influence and oversee the aborigines and hold possession of a large portion of the Oregon territory; and

Whereas by our treaty stipulations with Great Britain, we are bound to give twelve months notice of our intention to occupy said territory, which will be considered by the members of the body alliance not only as a friendly invitation for a free citizen to withdraw, but for the said body to withdraw in our just and legal territorial acquisition, but to remain at home the other side of the Atlantic, securing their own possessions and strengthening their feudal tenures with lead and gunpowder, without considering a single boon upon the aspirants for freedom: Therefore, Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Illinois That our Senators be instructed, and our Representatives requested to use their best endeavors to procure the passage of a resolution in Congress, to give notice to Great Britain of the intention of the United States to be the sole possessor of the said territory of Oregon, and to appropriate the first and second articles of the treaty of the 3d day of August, A. D. 1827.

Passed February 27, 1837.